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to test out the new models in as many ways as possible. The mathematical calculations upon which these models are based will probably be published in the *Physical Review*.

IRVING LANGMIUR

RESEARCH LABORATORY,  
GENERAL ELECTRIC Co.,  
SCHENECTADY, N. Y.,  
October 13, 1920

### SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

#### THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

EDWIN S. CARMAN, manufacturer, of Cleveland, Ohio, has been elected president of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers in a mail ballot covering a membership of 13,000 engineers, managers and technologists in every industrial center of the country. Mr. Carman succeeds Major Fred J. Miller, of this city. He will take office after the society's annual convention, which will be held in New York in December.

John L. Harrington, consulting engineer, of Kansas City; Leon P. Alford, editor, of New York, and Robert B. Wolf, president of the R. B. Wolf Company, of New York, were chosen vice-presidents for two years in succession to John A. Stevens, of Lowell, Mass; Henry B. Sargent, of New Haven, Conn, and Fred R. Low, of this city.

Three managers, each for a term of three years, were elected, as follows: Henry M. Norris, of Cincinnati; Carl C. Thomas, of Los Angeles; Louis C. Nordmeyer, of St. Louis. Major William H. Wiley, publisher, of New York, was re-elected treasurer. The secretary will be elected by the society's council in December. Calvin W. Rice has held this office since 1906.

Following a meeting of the society's council, composed of the president, vice-presidents, managers, past presidents, treasurer and secretary, representing engineering effort in many sections of the country, and with a membership of twenty-one, broad plans for promoting professional endeavor and public service, particularly as to industrial relations and rewarding engineering achievement, were an-

nounced. The finance committee recommended a budget for the ensuing year of over \$500,000.

The meetings and progress committee detailed plans for the annual convention of the society in New York in December and also announced plans for a congress of mechanical engineers to be held in Chicago next spring.

#### THE AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION

THE thirty-eighth stated meeting of The American Ornithologists' Union will convene in Washington, D. C., November 9-11.

Headquarters will be at The Harrington, 11th and E Streets, N. W., four blocks from the U. S. National Museum. Owing to the crowded condition of hotels in Washington members intending to be present are urged to make reservations well in advance.

The public meetings will be held in the U. S. National Museum, from 10 A.M. until 4.30 P.M. each day.

The reading of papers will form a prominent feature of the meetings. All classes of members are earnestly requested to contribute, and to notify the secretary before November 1, as to the titles of their communications and the length of time required for their presentation, so that a program for each day may be prepared.

In addition to the usual social features there will be opportunities to visit various places of interest, including the National Zoological Park and the Library of Congress. Arrangements have been made for a special exhibit in the library, showing the development of zoological illustrations as applied to birds and original drawings and photographs of birds by American artists and photographers.

T. S. PALMER,  
*Secretary*

1939 BILTMORE ST., N. W.,  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

#### THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF NATURALISTS

THE American Society of Naturalists will hold its thirty-eighth annual meeting at Chicago, under the auspices of the University of Chicago, beginning on Thursday, December